

The Chain of Light

Tazkira
Masha'ikh-e-Qaadiriyah
Razviyah



4th Noor

Sayyid-e-Saj'jaad Hazrat Sayyiduna

Imam Zainul Abideen 

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Hazrat Sayyiduna
Imam Zainul Abideen

رَضِيَ عَنْهُ
عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ

His Position in The Silsila: Waaris-e-Nabuiwat, Chiragh-e-Ummat, Sayyiduna Abul Hassan Ali, Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام is the fourth Imam and Shaykh of the Silsila Aaliyah Qaadiriyah Barakaatiyah Razviyah Nooriyah. He was one of the greatest Aabids of his era.

Imam Zuhri عليه السلام says, “(In my era) I have not seen any Quraish more excellent than Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام.” Hazrat Ibn Ab’bas عليه السلام used to look at Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام and refer to him as the “*Beloved of the Beloved*”.

His Birth: He was born on a Thursday the 5th of Sha’baan 38 Hijri in Madinah Munawwarah. [Masaalikus Saalikeen vol.1 pg 207]

Name: Hazrat Imam Hussain عليه السلام kept most of his children’s names attached to the name Ali. This was due to his love for his father Sayyiduna Ali عليه السلام. He was thus also named Ali. He was also known as Abu Muhammad, Abul Hassan, Abul Qasim and Abu Bakr. His titles were Sajjad, Zainul Abideen, Sayyidul Abideen, Zak’ki and Ameen.

Education: He spent ten years with his grandfather Sayyiduna Ali عليه السلام, ten years with his Uncle Sayyiduna Imam Hassan عليه السلام and eleven years with his father, Hazrat Imam Hussain عليه السلام.

Blessed Mother: His mother was known as Umme Wulad, and was also known as Shahar Banu. She was very pious and Allah fearing.

His Features: He was the image of his grandfather Sayyiduna Ali عليه السلام. He was tan in complexion and not very tall. He had a full beard on which he used henna (mendhi).

Predictions of His Birth: Hazrat Jaabir رضي الله عنه says, “I was in the blessed court of the Prophet ﷺ and Imam Hussain رضي الله عنه was in the blessed arms of the Prophet ﷺ. The Prophet ﷺ said O Jaabir رضي الله عنه! A son shall be born to him, whose name shall be Ali. Then he will have a child, whose name shall be Muhammad (Imam Baaqir). O Jaabir! If you meet with him, then you should pass my salaams to him.”

HIS CHARACTER: Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen رضي الله عنه was blessed with beautiful character, which he definitely inherited from his illustrious forefathers. He was very eloquent and very respectful. He was always willing to assist those in need. Umar Abu Nasr writes that Imam Zainul Abideen رضي الله عنه purchased many slaves, and then set them free. He would be kind even to those who were his personal enemies. Once he heard that there was a certain person who always spoke ill of him. Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen رضي الله عنه went to him and treated him with such respect and kindness, that he repented from his bad behaviour and affiliated himself to the great Imam. Many great poets have written numerous Qasidas in praise of his kindness and generosity. [Masaalikus Saalikeen vol.1 pg 208]

His Excellence: Abu Haazim says, “I have not seen any Jurist more exalted than him.”

Imam Zahbi and Ainiyah have said, “We have not seen any Quraish more exalted than him.”

Hazrat Imam Maalik رضي الله عنه says, “He is from the Men of Excellence”

Ibn Abi Shaiba says, “In Hadith, the most exalted chain of transmission is that which is narrated from Imam Zainul Abideen رضي الله عنه where he narrates from his father Imam Hussain رضي الله عنه.” [Masaalikus Saalikeen].

Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام was always prepared to sacrifice everything he had for Islam. He sacrificed all his wealth twice for Islam. He was a very generous person. He used to discreetly send money to the poor people living in Madinah Shareef and none of them knew that the money was coming from him. The only time this became known to them, was after his wisaal. [Tareekhul Khulafa]

His Patience: He was a person with great patience. After the Battle of Karbala, he was marched to Damascus in chains and shackles and during the rule of Abdul Malik bin Marwaan, he was arrested and chained. He was then forced to walk from Madinah to Syria in chains. With all this, he never complained or said one word about his condition in the Court of Allah. He instead remained patient and made Shukr (thanked Allah) on every step. Imam Zainul Abideen's عليه السلام most loyal student Sayyiduna Imam Zuhri عليه السلام could not bear to see the Imam in this condition, so he went to Abdul Malik bin Marwaan, and requested for the release of the great Imam. He then took him back to Madinah Shareef with great respect. [Khazinatul Asfiyah vol.1 pg.31/32]

Once Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام was on his way home, when a disrespectful person began to slander him. Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام went up to him and said, *“O Brother! If whatever you have said about me is true, then may Allah forgive me, and if what you said is not true, then may Allah forgive you.”* When the man heard these words of the Imam, he began to regret what he had said. He stepped forward, asked for forgiveness and kissed the forehead of the Imam. He then said, *“Whatever I said about you is untrue. In reality, it is I who is a liar. Please forgive me and make dua for my forgiveness.”* Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام then made dua for him.

Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام had a very soft heart and always thought of the sacrifice that was given by his father Imam Hussain عليه السلام and all the

other martyrs on the plains of Karbala. Once, he was walking in the blessed streets of Madinah Munawwarah, when he saw a person placing a goat on the ground, and was sharpening the knife before making the animal zibah. On seeing this, he became very saddened and thought of the martyrdom of his father. He then began to weep bitterly and asked the man, *“My dear Brother! Did you give the goat some food and water or not?”* The man replied that he had fed and given water to the goat for the past three days and had also fed it water just before laying in down. On hearing this, Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام let out a sigh of pain and said, *“It is sad, that the people of Kufa did not even care for him like (you care for) the goat. They starved him for three days and nights and then martyred him in this state.”* [Masaalikus Saalikeen]

His Ibaadat: After the shahaadat of his blessed father Imam Hussain عليه السلام, he completely divorced himself from the materialistic world. He spent all his time in the remembrance of Allah. He would pass his days and nights thinking of the tragedy of Karbala and weeping. When Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام used to sit down to perform wudhu, then his face used to become pale, and when he stood in Namaaz, then his complexion would change to such an extent, that it would be difficult to recognise him. The people would ask, *“O Beloved of the Prophet ﷺ! What has happened to you?”* and he would say, *“O People! Namaaz is a time when you are present in the Court of Allah. Who is so naive as to smile and look happy, when he is standing before his Creator?”* [Awaariful Mu’aarif pg.475]

He used to perform 1000 Rakaats of nafil salaah every night. One night whilst he was performing his nafils, his house caught on fire. The people were rushing around trying to put out the fire, but he continued his Namaaz with total sincerity. After he completed his salaah, the people told him that his house had caught on fire and yet he continued reading his Namaaz without showing any sign of panic. He said, *“You were trying to*

extinguish this fire, and I was trying to extinguish the fire of the hereafter.”
[Khazinatul Asfiyah vol.1 pg.31]

Imam Talha Shafi'i عليه السلام writes that once shaitaan appeared in the form of a snake and whistled the Imam was in Salaah. He caught the toe of Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen in his mouth, but the Imam did not even move or show sign of discomfort. After some time, he became disillusioned and stood a distance away from the Imam. Then, a voice was heard thrice, saying the following words, *“You are the Jewel of the Worshippers, You are the Chief of those who prostrate (to Allah).”*

His Fear For Allah: He was a personality who truly feared Allah. His heart flowed with the fear of Allah. Once during Hajj, he tied his Ehraam but did not say the Labaik. The people asked him the reason for this, and he said, *“I fear that I will say Labaik and Allah will say; I do not accept your presence (Hajj).”* The people then told him that his Ehraam would not be proper if he did not say Labaik. He then said Labaik, and began to tremble in the fear of Allah until he fell off his camel and became unconscious. This continued throughout the Hajj, every time that he said Labaik. [Khazinatul Asfiyah]

Recitation of the Holy Quran: Hazrat Imam Ja'far Saadiq عليه السلام says, *“When my grandfather, Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام used to recite the Quran, then the beauty of his recitation attracted the people towards him and all those listening to him would become so overwhelmed with the fear of Allah, that one did not know the condition of the other.”*

Return from the Battle of Karbala: When Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام and the family of Imam Hussain عليه السلام were taken to Yazeed after the battle of Karbala, some person asked the Imam, *“O Ali! O Dwellers of the House of Mercy! How did you pass through till morning?”* Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen

ﷺ said, “We passed through until morning, in our nation, like the nation of Moosa عليه السلام when they were before Firawn. The Firawnis killed their families and left their women and (some) children alive. Thus, we do not know what our morning is like compared to our evening in this test we are facing. We thank Allah for His Grace and we remain patient in difficulties and hardships. This is the reality of our difficult position.” When Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام was returning to Madinah after the Battle of Karbala, he said a few stanzas. A few stanzas are being presented for blessing:

*“O Winds! If someday you pass by the sacred land,
Then pass my salaams before the Rauza-e-Aqdas
where the most exalted Nabi rests”*

*“The Sadness of separation from Madinah feels
like a sword stuck deep into my liver
How fortunate are the people of that city in
Which is the Exalted and Beloved Prophet”*

*“O Rahmatulil Aalameen! Assist Zainul Abideen.
Who is standing alone and in difficulty amongst the tyrants.”*

Respect for the Khulafa : Once some people from Iraq, came to visit Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام. During their visit, they began to say disrespectful words concerning Hazrat Abu Bakr, Hazrat Umar and Hazrat Uthman (ridwaanullahi ta'aala alaihim ajmaeen). When they had completed saying what they wished to, He said, “Tell me, are you from amongst the first Muhajireen, concerning whom Almighty Allah says, those who were driven out from their homes and their possessions seeking the grace of Allah and His Pleasure, and helping Allah and His Messenger. They are the truthful.” [Surah Hashr verse 8].

They replied in the negative, by saying that the verse did not refer to them. Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام then asked if they were from amongst the Ansaar, concerning whom Almighty Allah says in the Quran, “ *And those who had established their homes in this city, with faith, from inception, They, (who) show love to those, who migrated towards them, and who find no need in their hearts, for that which has been left, and they give preference to them over their lives, even though they are in great need.*” [Surah Hashr]

Again, they answered in the negative. He then said, I swear, that you are not even worthy of this verse of the Quran wherein Allah says, “ *And those who came after them say, O Allah! Pardon us and our brothers, who brought faith before us, And keep not in our hearts hostility towards those with Imaan. O Our Lord, Verily you are most Compassionate, Most Merciful.*” [Surah Hashr]

After saying this, he asked them to leave his presence. In other words, he showed them that they were not from amongst the Muhajireen, or the Ansaar, or even from amongst the believers. He therefore shunned them for being disrespectful to the Khulafa-e-Thalaasa.

Karaamats : The Karaamats of Imam Zainul Abideen are numerous, but a few are being quoted for attaining blessings.

Incident during Hajj: Two people were making tawaaf of the Kaaba and came to Hajr-e-Aswad. When they touched the Hajr-e-Aswad, both their hands became stuck to it. People tried very hard to release their hands, but it was not possible. Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen entered the Haram whilst this was happening. He said Bismillah hir Rahmaan nir Rahim and then placed his hands on the Hajr-e-Aswad. Immediately the hands of both were released. [Khazinatul Asfiyah vol.1 pg 34]

The Deer : Once Hazrat had gone into the jungle with his companions. As they sat to eat, a deer passed by them. The Imam called to the deer and asked it to partake in the meal with them. The Deer immediately came to the Imam and partook in the meal provided. [Masaalikus Saalikeen]

A Deers Complaint : A deer once came to Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام, whilst he was in a jungle. The animal fell to the ground and began to say something. Those with the Imam asked what had happened. The Imam said that the deer was complaining about a man who captured her child. Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام summoned the man. The man brought with him the child belonging to the deer. Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام asked him to release the deer, which he gladly did. After some time, the deer took its young, and said something and then left. Those present were amazed and asked the Imam what the deer had said as she left. The Imam said, “ *She said, Jazaak’Allahu fi Darain Khair*”

His Children : Almighty Allah blessed Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen عليه السلام with fifteen children. The blessed names are as follows :

Sons :

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Hazrat Muhammad (Imam Baaqir) <small>عليه السلام</small> | 2. Hazrat Zaid <small>عليه السلام</small> |
| 3. Hazrat Imraan <small>عليه السلام</small> | 4. Hazrat Abdullah <small>عليه السلام</small> |
| 5. Hazrat Hassan <small>عليه السلام</small> | 6. Hazrat Hussain <small>عليه السلام</small> |
| 7. Hazrat Hussain Asghar <small>عليه السلام</small> | 8. Hazrat Abdur Rahmaan <small>عليه السلام</small> |
| 9. Hazrat Sulaiman <small>عليه السلام</small> | 10. Hazrat Ali <small>عليه السلام</small> |
| 11. One more son whose name is not known | |

Daughters :

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Hazrat Khadija | 2. Hazrat Faatima, |
| 3. Hazrat Aaliyah | 4. Hazrat Umme Kulthoom |

Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen's ﷺ descendants are from Hazrat Imam Baaqir, Hazrat Zaid, Hazrat Abdullah, Hazrat Hussain Ashgar, Hazrat Imraan and Hazrat Ali (ridwaanullahi ta aala alaihim ajmaeen) All of them were blessed with numerous children. [Masaalikus Saalikeen]

Acceptance of Dua: A man who was praying in the Kaaba noticed Imam Zainul Abideen ﷺ in Sajdah for a very lengthy period of time. He thus went close to hear what dua the Imam was making. He heard the Imam saying: “ *Allahuma Abduka bi Fina'ika Miskeenuka bi finaa'ika Faqiruka fi fina'uka*” The person who heard this dua says, “ *By Allah, whenever I was faced with a calamity, I read this and my problem was solved.*”

Once a person asked Imam Zainul Abideen ﷺ about who will be regarded as pious and good on the last day, and he said: “ *That person, who when he is happy, his happiness does not drive him towards wrong and that person and when he is angry, his anger does not divert him from that which is right.*”

In other words, when you are happy, you should not let your happiness take you towards bad deeds and when you are angry you should not allow your anger to blind you from that which is right. [Masaalikus Saalikeen]

Wisaal : He was given poison by Waleed bin Abdul Malik and was thus made shaheed on the 18th of Muharram and according to some narrations on the 12 or 22nd of Muharram at the age of 57 or 58. He passed away in Madinatul Munawwarah and his Mazaar Shareef is in Jannatul Baqi.

After his wisaal, his camel placed its head on his mazaar shareef and cried. Hazrat Imam Baaqir ﷺ tried to move it away, but it refused. In the end, he said, “ *She will die in this exact place.*” Eventually she did pass away at the Mazaar of Imam Zainul Abideen ﷺ. [Masaalikus Saalikeen vol.1 pg 207]